



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

2 October 2006

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

Last bulletin: September 28, 2006

Conditions Report

A harmful algal bloom has been identified from Pinellas to central Collier County. Patchy low impacts are possible from Pinellas to northern Charlotte County through Thursday. Patchy very low impacts are possible from southern Charlotte to northern Collier County through Thursday. No impacts expected in central Collier County through Thursday.

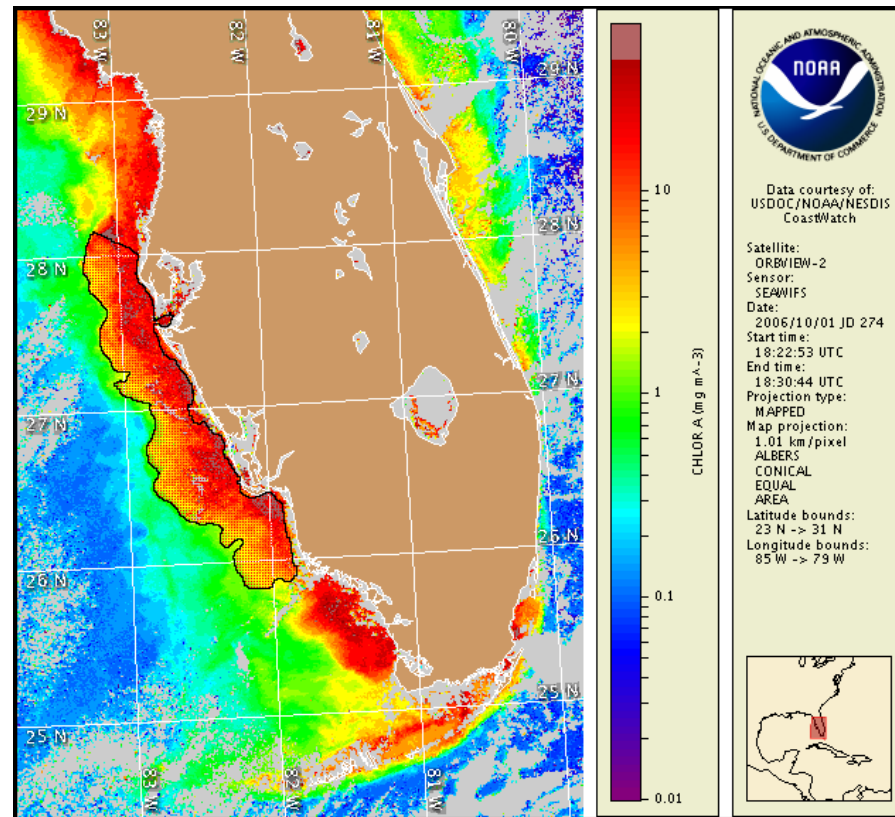
Analysis

The ongoing harmful algal bloom persists from Pinellas to central Collier County. Recent imagery indicates continued high chlorophyll concentrations along the majority of the southwest Florida Coast. Medium to high concentrations of *K. brevis* have been identified onshore from Clearwater to Englewood Beach (FWRI, 9/26-28). South of Englewood Beach, concentrations range from present to low, as far south as Caxambas Pass in Collier County (FWRI, 9/25-28). Last week, the offshore portion of the bloom extended from 11 miles west of Anclote Key to 10 miles west of Marco Island, with medium to high concentrations extending from 19 miles west of Anclote Key to 13 miles west of Wiggins Pass in Collier County (FWRI, 9/21-27). Wind conditions over the past few days have been favorable for upwelling; concentrations at the coast may have intensified. Continued sampling recommended. Dead fish have been reported in Pinellas, Manatee, Sarasota, and Lee Counties in the last 3 days, and respiratory irritation was reported yesterday in Sarasota County. Northeasterly winds through Friday may intensify the bloom, although coastal impacts will be minimized. Minimal transport of the bloom expected through Thursday.

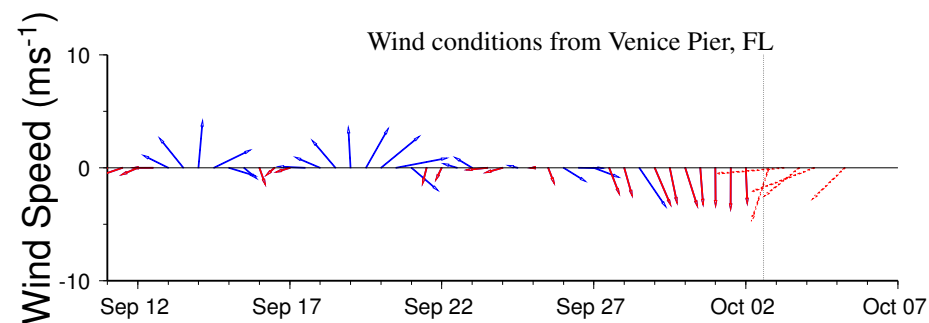
- Allen, Fisher

Please note the following restrictions on all SeaWiFS imagery derived from CoastWatch.

1. Data are restricted to civil marine applications only; i.e. federal, state, and local government use/distribution is permitted.
2. Image products may be published in newspapers. Any other publishing arrangements must receive GeoEye approval via the CoastWatch Program.

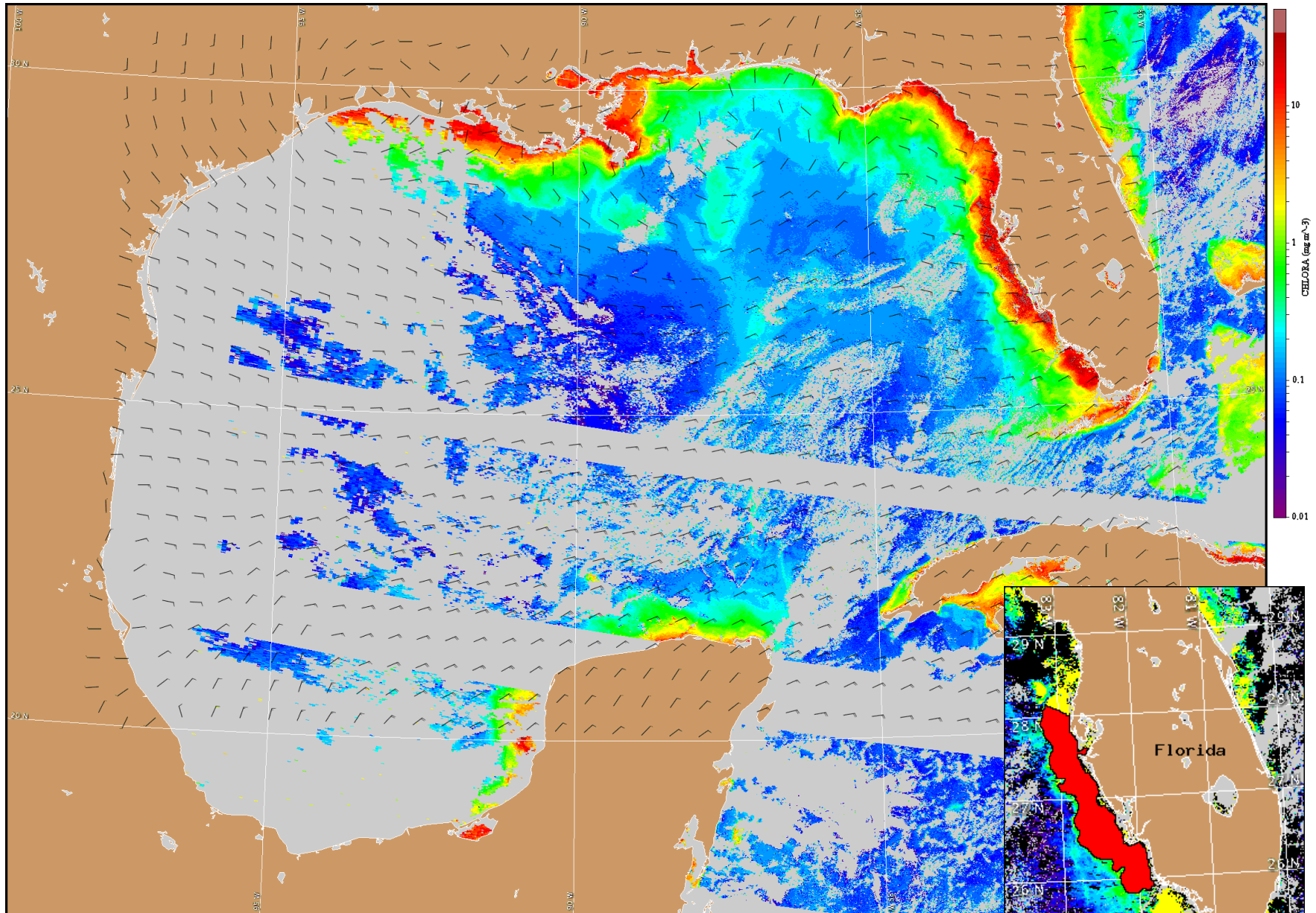


Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration categories and corresponding cell count values from Florida Fish and Wildlife Research Institute. For a key to the cell concentration descriptions, visit <http://research.myfwc.com>.



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

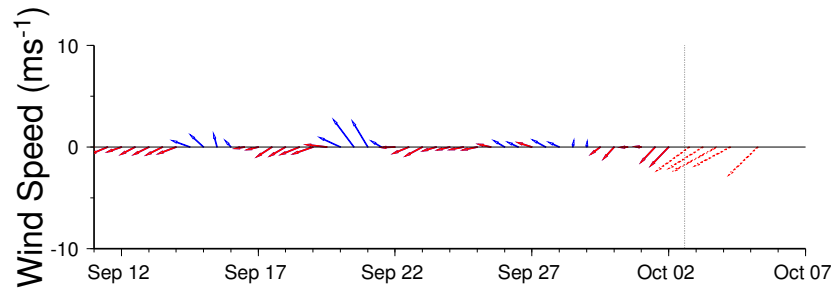
Northeast winds today building from 10-15 knots (5-8 m/s) by this afternoon, becoming easterly tonight. Northeasterly winds Tuesday through Thursday at 15 knots (8 m/s) with higher gusts possible Tuesday and Wednesday.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for October 3, 2006 06Z.

Verified HAB areas shown in red. Other bloom areas shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).

Wind conditions from Naples, FL



Wind conditions from Clearwater Beach, FL

